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FRIDAY
APRIL 24, 1953

Winthrop Aldrich told us a couple of days ago that Mr. Churchill, in a foreign affairs debate next Monday in the House of Commons, would probably come out with an exhortation to Germany, France, and the others to ratify the EDC treaty. If he phrases this eloquently, it would have a great effect.

However, today, everything seems to have gone wrong in Germany. The Bundesrat, instead of voting on the treaty, decided 20 to 18 to demand an opinion by the Constitutional Court.

Adenauer opposed this motion bitterly and, after he was defeated, spoke of dispensing with Bundesrat action and having the President of the Federal Republic sign the most important of the agreements. This involves highly technical legal considerations and has left the outside world thoroughly confused. Regardless of what the outcome may be, this was a serious although not unexpected setback since it was known that the vote would be extremely close.

We had an interesting morning at the Palais de Chaillot, where 11 of the 14 Foreign Ministers present spoke in favor of the EDC.

There was a big cocktail party this afternoon in this building given by the Dillons and the Drapers, and afterwards a large dinner at the Embassy. I sat between Pamela Humphrey and Fred Anderson. All of the top American Government officials who are in Paris either permanently or on visit, as well as Generals Ridgway and Gruenther from SHAPE, with their wives, Admiral McCormack, and numbers of others were present. I have always liked the Humphreys immensely and even more so each time I see them.

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